

Appln No. 09/735,170

Amdt date March 4, 2004

Reply to Office action of December 4, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21-28, 34-49, 51, 52, 54, 55, and 57-64 are now pending in this application. Claims 31 and 32 are withdrawn. Claims 1, 18, 21, 34, 37, 54, 57, and 58 have been amended and claims 14, 17, 20, 29, 30, 33, 50, 53, 56, and 65-71 have been canceled. The amendments find full support in the original specification, claims, and drawings. No new matter has been added. In view of the above amendments and remarks that follow, Applicants respectfully request an early indication of allowance of claims 1-13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21-28, 34-49, 51, 52, 54, 55, and 57-64.

The Examiner rejects claims 54, and 58-66 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, due to certain typographical errors. Applicant has amended claims 54 and 58 to correct these errors. The amendment was made for reasons unrelated to patentability.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the invention is allegedly directed to a non-statutory process. Applicant has amended independent claim 1 so that it now recites "a method for operating an arithmetic device for reducing a precision of an input signal data." (Emphasis Added) Claim 1 also now recites "combining the precision portion with α , creating a reduced precision signal data thereby, wherein α corresponds to a predetermined characteristic of one of α , the input signal data, the reduced precision signal data, and a combination thereof." (Emphasis Added) Claim 21 has been similarly amended to recite "a method for operating an arithmetic device for rounding a first signal data." (Emphasis Added) Claim 21 further recites "eliminating the loss portion

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Added) The amendments were made for reasons unrelated to patentability. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 is therefore respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-14, 19, 21-28, 33-36, 37-50, 55, 57-64, and 69-71 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Juri et al. (EP 0 469 841 A or U.S. Patent No. 5,218,563). The Examiner also rejects claims 15-18, 29, 51-54, and 65 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Juri in view of Morrow (U.S. Patent No. 5,612,909). The Examiner, however, has indicated that claims 20, 30, 56, and 66 would be allowable because "the recorded references do not teach or suggest the novel 'selected pseudorandom sequence of data bits' feature round-off device as recited in dependent claims 20, 30, 56, and 66."

Claims 1, 21, 34, 37, and 57, have been amended to recite that the selectable bias "is selected from a pseudorandom sequence of data bits." Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1, 21, 34, 37, and 57 are now in condition for allowance.

Applicants submit that claims 2-13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22-28, 35-36, 38-49, 51-52, 54-55, and 58-64 are also in condition for allowance because they depend on an allowable base claim, and for the additional limitations contained therein.

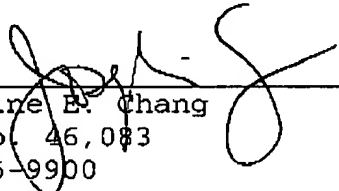
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In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request an early indication of allowance of claims 1-13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21-28, 34-49, 51, 52, 54, 55, and 57-64.

Respectfully submitted,
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